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IN THE CLAIMS

The following claim set replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) For use in transferring image data between a removable flash memory module and a user's computer, A-a portable, palm-sized, hand-held, digital camera picture image data transfer and repository device embodied in a housing connectable to both a removable flash memory module and a user's notebook or desktop computer and which is of a size which can be held in a user's palm, said repository device for use for transferring said image data between a removable memory module of a digital camera and a user's computer comprising:

a housing of a size to be held in the palm of a user's hand and including a memory input port sized to receive a digital camera flash memory module and including an output port for coupling said portable repository device to a user's computer;

a hard disk drive mass-storage device operatively coupled to receive and store picture image data from a digital camera flash memory module inserted into said memory input port and for storing said image data, said hard disk drive mass-storage device being accessible for downloading said image data from said portable repository device to a user's computer;

data transfer circuitry for controlling the transfer of data stored in said digital camera flash memory module inserted into said memory input port to said hard disk drive mass-storage device, and

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an LCD display device for displaying data indicative of the picture image data of the flash memory module, and

an output interface, coupled to said hard disk drive ~~mass storage device~~, for use in transferring image data stored in said hard disk drive ~~mass storage device~~ to said user's computer, said output interface being compatible with an interface of said user's computer.

2. (Original) A portable, hand-held, digital camera picture image data transfer and repository device in accordance with claim 1, further including:

processing circuitry for reformatting a digital camera memory module inserted into said memory input port to place said digital camera memory module into a state where it can be reused in the user's digital camera for picture capture without erasing desired picture image data.

3. (Currently Amended) A portable, hand-held, digital camera picture image data transfer and repository device in accordance with claim 1, wherein said output interface includes a USB interface operatively coupled to said hard disk drive ~~mass storage device~~ for transferring picture image data to a user's computer.

4. (Original) A portable, hand-held, digital camera picture image data transfer and repository device in accordance with claim 1, further including:

at least one control key for initiating predetermined operations relating to said digital camera memory module.

5. (Currently Amended) A portable, hand-held, digital camera picture image data transfer and repository device in accordance with claim 4, wherein said at least one

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control key is part of a keyboard and wherein said data transfer circuitry is responsive to user initiation of a key to control the transfer of data from said memory module to said hard disk drive-mass-storage device.

6. (Original) A portable, hand-held, digital camera picture image data transfer and repository device in accordance with claim 1, further including:

a display for indicating the status of said repository device.

7. Cancelled.

8. (Currently Amended) A portable, hand-held, digital camera picture image data transfer and repository device in accordance with claim 1, further including:

a further memory input port in said housing sized to receive a further storage module, said data transfer circuitry being operable to selectively transfer the contents of said digital camera memory module and said further storage module to said hard disk drive-mass-storage device.

9. Cancelled.

10. (Currently Amended) A portable, hand-held, digital camera picture image data transfer and repository device in accordance with claim 1-9, wherein said hard drive is removable.

11. (Currently Amended) For use in transferring data between a removable flash memory module and a user's computer, A-a portable, palm-sized, hand-held, general purpose, digital data transfer and repository device embodied in a housing connectable to both a removable flash memory module and a user's notebook or desktop computer and which is of a size which can be held in a user's palm, said repository device for use for

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~~transferring said data between a removable memory module and a user's computer~~
comprising:

a housing of a size to be held in the palm of a user's hand and including a memory insertion section for receiving a first digital flash memory module, and for receiving a second digital flash memory module and including an output port for coupling said portable repository device to a user's computer,

a hard disk drive ~~mass storage device~~ contained within said hand-held housing and operatively coupled to receive and store digital data from said first digital flash memory module and said second digital flash memory module, said hard disk drive ~~mass storage device~~ being accessible for data transfer between said portable repository device and with a user's computer;

processing circuitry contained within said hand-held housing for controlling the transfer of data stored in said first digital flash memory module and second digital flash memory module to said hard disk drive ~~mass storage device~~, and

an LCD display device for displaying data indicative of the contents of at least one of said first digital flash memory module and said second digital flash memory module,
and

an output interface, coupled to said hard disk drive ~~mass storage device~~, for use in transferring data between said hard disk drive ~~mass storage device~~ and said user's computer, said output interface being compatible with an interface of said user's computer.

12. Cancelled.

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13. (Original) A portable, hand-held, digital data transfer and repository device in accordance with claim 11, wherein said processing circuitry is operable to reformat a memory module inserted into one of the memory input ports to place the memory module into a state where it can be reused.

14. (Currently Amended) A portable, hand-held, digital data transfer and repository device in accordance with claim 11, wherein said output interface includes a USB interface operatively coupled to said hard disk drive ~~mass-storage device~~ for transferring data to a user's computer.

15. (Original) A portable, hand-held, digital data transfer and repository device in accordance with claim 11, further including a display.

16. (Currently Amended) For use in transferring data between a removable flash memory module and a user's computer, A portable, palm-sized, hand-held, digital data transfer and repository device embodied in a housing connectable to both a user's notebook or desktop computer and which is of a size which can be held in a user's palm, said repository device ~~for use for transferring data between a removable memory module and a user's computer~~ comprising:

a housing of a size to be held in the palm of a user's hand and including a memory input port for receiving a digital flash memory module and including an output port for coupling said portable repository device to a user's computer,

a hard disk drive ~~mass-storage device~~ contained within said hand-held housing and operatively coupled to receive and store digital data from said digital flash memory module ~~and said second digital memory module~~ inserted into said memory input port,

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said hard disk drive ~~mass-storage device~~ being accessible for data transfer between said portable repository device and ~~with a user's computer~~;

at least one control key for initiating an operation relating to the data stored in said digital flash memory module;

processing circuitry contained within said hand-held housing for controlling the transfer of data stored in said digital memory module to said hard disk drive ~~mass-storage device~~, and

an LCD display device for displaying data indicative of the contents of the flash memory module, and

an output interface, coupled to said hard disk drive ~~mass-storage device~~, for use in transferring data between said hard disk drive ~~mass-storage device~~ and said user's computer, said output interface being compatible with an interface of said user's computer.

17. Cancelled.

18. (Original) A portable, hand-held, digital data transfer and repository device in accordance with claim 16, wherein said processing circuitry is operable to reformat a memory module inserted into said memory input port to place the memory module into a state where it can be reused.

19. (Currently Amended) A portable, hand-held, digital data transfer and repository device in accordance with claim 16, wherein said output interface includes a USB interface operatively coupled to said hard disk drive ~~mass-storage device~~ for transferring data to a user's computer.

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20. Cancelled.

21. (Currently Amended) A portable, hand-held, digital data transfer and repository device in accordance with claim 16, further including:

a further memory input port in said housing sized to receive a further storage module, said processing circuitry being operable to selectively transfer the contents of said digital memory module and said further storage module to said hard disk drive ~~mass storage device~~.

22. (Currently Amended) A method of operating a portable, ~~palm-sized~~, hand-held digital camera picture image data transfer and repository device to permit a the digital camera flash memory module to be reused and to transfer said image data between a removable flash memory module of a digital camera and a user's computer, said data transfer and repository device including an output port for coupling said portable repository device to a user's computer, a hard disk drive ~~mass storage device~~ and being operable to ~~transfer said image data between a removable memory module of a digital camera and a user's computer~~ and further including an output interface, coupled to said hard disk drive ~~mass storage device~~, for use in transferring image data stored in said hard disk drive ~~mass storage device~~ to said user's computer, said output interface being compatible with an interface of said user's computer, said method comprising the steps of:

inserting into a memory input port of said repository device a digital camera flash memory module having picture image data stored therein;

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transferring picture image data from the digital memory module to said hard disk drive mass storage device within said repository device; ~~and~~

displaying data on an LCD display on said repository device indicative of the contents of said flash memory module, and

reformatting said digital camera flash memory module so that it may be reinserted into a digital camera for picture taking.

23 (Previously Amended) A method according to claim 22, further including the step of:

transferring picture image data to a user's computer via said output interface in said portable repository device.

24. (Original) A method according to claim 22, further including the step of:
displaying on a display screen on said portable device data indicative of at least part of the contents of said digital camera memory module.

25. (Currently Amended) For use in transferring data between a removable flash memory module and a user's computer, A-a portable, palm-sized, hand-held, digital data transfer and repository apparatus embodied in a housing connectable to both a removable flash memory module and a user's notebook or desktop computer and which is of a size which can be held in a user's palm, said repository device for use for transferring data between a memory module removable from a user's device and a user's computer comprising:

a housing of a size to be held in the palm of a user's hand including an output port for coupling said portable repository device to a user's computer;

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a memory input receiving section in said housing for receiving a digital flash memory module,

a hard disk drive ~~mass storage device~~ contained within said hand-held housing and operatively coupled to receive and store digital data from said digital flash memory module inserted into said memory input receiving section, said hard disk drive ~~mass storage device~~ being accessible for data transfer between said repository device and with a user's computer;

~~a~~ an LCD display for displaying data indicative of at least part of the contents of said digital flash memory module;

processing circuitry contained within said hand-held housing for modifying the contents of said digital memory module so that it may be reused in said user's device, and

an output interface, coupled to said hard disk drive ~~mass storage device~~, for use in transferring data between said ~~mass storage device~~ hard disk drive and said user's computer, said output interface being compatible with an interface of said user's computer.

26. (Currently Amended) A portable, hand-held, digital data transfer and repository apparatus in accordance with claim 25, wherein said output interface includes a USB interface operatively coupled to said hard disk drive ~~mass storage device~~ for transferring data to and from a user's computer.

27. (Previously Added) A portable, hand-held, data transfer and repository apparatus in accordance with claim 25, wherein said user's device is a digital camera and wherein said processing circuitry is operable to reformat a digital camera memory

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module inserted into said memory input receiving section to place said digital camera memory module into a state where it can be reused in said digital camera for picture capture.

28. (Previously Added) A portable, hand-held, data transfer and repository apparatus in accordance with claim 25, further including:

at least one control key for initiating predetermined operations relating to said digital memory module.

29. (Currently Amended) A portable, hand-held, data transfer and repository apparatus in accordance with claim 28, wherein processing circuitry is responsive to user initiation of a key to control the transfer of data from said memory module to said hard disk drive ~~mass storage device~~.

30. (Currently Amended) A portable, hand-held, data transfer and repository apparatus in accordance with claim 25, further wherein said memory input receiving section is operable to receive a further memory module structurally distinct from said digital memory module and further including data transfer circuitry operable to transfer the contents of said digital memory module to said hard disk drive ~~mass storage device~~ and to transfer the contents of said further storage module to said hard disk drive ~~mass storage device~~.

31. Cancelled.